

WCBC WORSHIP SERVICE - JANUARY 14, 2018

TOPIC: THE SEVEN CHURCHES OF REVELATION

Sermon 7: "Laodicea: The Apostate Church!"

TEXT: Revelation 3:14-22

INTRO: Ephesus - *The Backsliding Church!*

Smyrna - *The Suffering Church!*

Pergamum - *The Compromising Church!*

Thyatira - *The Unrepentant Church!*

Sardis - *The Dying Church!*

Philadelphia - *The Faithful Church!*

- Apostasy!

I. LUKEWARM: vv.15-16

- Hierapolis' Hot Springs & Colossae's Cold Stream!

Note: The Laodicean church is a clear picture of many apostate, lukewarm evangelical churches today. Many in the churches just go through the motions, no passion for the things of God, as they are not true believers!

II. MATERIALISTIC: v.17a

Note: In verse 17, they were truly rich materially!

- John MacArthur
- The Fool!
- Eye salve!

Note: What the Lord Jesus is actually saying is that "I'm giving you salvation! Salvation is:

- "gold" that makes people spiritually rich in faith!
- "white clothes" that cover our sinful nakedness!
- "eye salve" that opens our spiritually blind eyes to God's truth!

III. UNSAVED: vv.19-20

Note: In verse 20, here the Laodicean church had left Jesus out of their lives; and in verse 19, Jesus points out to them the way of salvation. He is giving them a chance to get saved!

1. By letting them know that He loves them - v.19a cf. John 3:16
2. By telling them to "repent!" - v.19b

Note: True salvation always involves repentance!!

CONCLUSION: A Hindu Woman's Offering!

Mr. Luke Warm!

Recently, I talked to a man I will call Mr. Luke Warm, for he is "neither cold nor hot." He says he is a Christian but seldom attends church. "I am under a great deal of tension where I work," he explained, "and often go fishing on weekends for relaxation. Church is all right, but a person can't do everything, you know."

Mr. Luke Warm also had an uneasy conscience about his giving, for he continued, "I put a dollar or two in the offering plate whenever I go, and I think that's all God can expect of me. If I gave a tenth of my income, it would amount to more than \$2,000. You just don't know how expensive it is for me to maintain my cabin at the lake and pay dues to keep my membership at the country club, and the bowling league. Anyway, churches put too much emphasis on money. Sometimes I get so disgusted with this talk about sacrificing for Christ that I feel like quitting altogether! - *Our Daily Bread*

Verse For Today

"Those whom I love I rebuke and discipline. So be earnest, and repent!" - Revelation 3:19

Food For Thought

"Beginners in the way of grace; it is a great and solemn truth that every child of God will hold on until the end, but it is an equally solemn truth that many who profess to be the Lord's are self-deceivers, and will turn out apostates after all!" - Charles H. Spurgeon

Happy 2018 To All!

